



IN REPLY TO:

United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

Dillon Field Office
1005 Selway Drive
Dillon, Montana 59725
<http://www.mt.blm.gov/dfo/>



1610.RMP

March 5, 2002

Dear Reader:

In accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act and as part of the resource management planning process, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), Dillon Field Office has completed an inventory and evaluation of rivers flowing through BLM-administered lands in the Dillon Field Office. This inventory and evaluation has resulted in eligibility findings, which is the first step in the Wild and Scenic River evaluation process. These findings are documented in the Draft Eligibility Report, which is enclosed. The report identifies rivers which should be considered eligible for further study as the Dillon Resource Management Plan (RMP) is developed.

To be considered eligible for further consideration in the RMP, a river must be free-flowing and contain at least one value considered outstandingly remarkable. The report includes the eligibility criteria and the conclusions reached by the planning team. It also discusses the management that is applied to eligible streams.

BLM will accept public comments on the Draft Eligibility Report. The most useful comments would focus on whether or not the described values meet the criteria for outstandingly remarkable values. Please address written comments to Renee Johnson, Dillon RMP Project Leader, 1005 Selway Drive, Dillon, MT 59725. BLM staff will also be available to address any questions you might have at an Information Fair to be held at the BLM Dillon Field Office between 1 p.m. and 8 p.m. on April 9, 10, and 11, 2002.

Comments on the findings in this report must be received by April 30, 2002 for maximum consideration in final eligibility determinations. BLM will review these comments and make adjustments if comments show eligibility criteria are not met. We anticipate finalizing the list of eligible streams by June 1, 2002. Eligible streams will then be studied further for suitability as possible additions to the National Wild and Scenic River system. The suitability information will be included in the Draft RMP that is released for public comment.

For further information on the Dillon RMP or the Wild and Scenic River process, contact Renee Johnson, Dillon RMP Project Leader, at (406) 683-8016, or use our toll-free number at 1-877-521-2889.

Sincerely,

/s/ Scott Powers

Scott Powers
Field Manager



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Land Management



Dillon Field Office
1005 Selway Drive
Dillon, Montana 59725

March 2002

Draft
Wild and Scenic Rivers
Eligibility Report

Prepared by the Dillon Field Office
for the Dillon Resource Management Plan

ERRATA SHEET

Please note the following corrections to the Draft Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Report, dated March 2002.

- Map 1: The North Fork of Greenhorn/Dark Hollow Creek has been assigned a tentative classification of Wild and should be labelled 3(W) on the map instead of 3(R). The legend is correct.
- Map 1: Big Sheep Creek is estimated to cross 7.5 miles of land administered by BLM, not 4.5 miles.
- Map 4: The tentative classification of the North Fork of Greenhorn/Dark Hollow Creek should be Wild not Wilderness.
- Map 5: Big Sheep Creek is estimated to cross 7.5 miles of land administered by BLM, not 4.5 miles.
- Map 6. The tentative classification of Bear Creek should be Wild, not Wilderness.
- Map 7: The tentative classification of Jones Creek should be Wild, not Wilderness
- Map 8: The tentative classification of the Lower Madison River–Powerhouse to North Wilderness Boundary should be Wild, not Wilderness.

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INTRODUCTION

Congress enacted the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (the Act) in 1968 to provide a national policy for preserving and protecting selected rivers and river segments in their free-flowing condition for the benefit and enjoyment of present and future generations. Section 5 (d)(1) of the Act directs federal agencies to consider potential wild and scenic rivers in their land and water planning processes.

To fulfill this requirement, the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) inventories and evaluates rivers when it develops a resource management plan (RMP) for public lands in a specified area. The inventory is conducted during the data gathering stage of RMP development, and the study phase is done during the formulation of the Draft and Proposed RMP.

THE INVENTORY PHASE

The purpose of the inventory is to identify eligible rivers in the planning area and assign them a tentative classification. The agency conducting the inventory is directed to consider a wide variety of internal and external sources to identify potentially eligible rivers. The goal is to avoid overlooking river segments which have potential for inclusion in the national system. Once rivers are identified, the BLM applies standard criteria to determine eligibility. To be eligible a river segment must:

- Be free-flowing, and
- Possess at least one river-related value considered outstandingly remarkable.

The specific criteria for free-flowing and outstandingly remarkable values (ORVs) are listed in Appendix A.

Identification of Eligible River Segments

There are several sources normally used to begin the identification of potentially eligible rivers. These include:

- The Nationwide Rivers Inventory (NRI) List.
- Outstanding Rivers List compiled by American Rivers, Inc.
- Published guidebooks, regional guides, and inventories, i.e., American

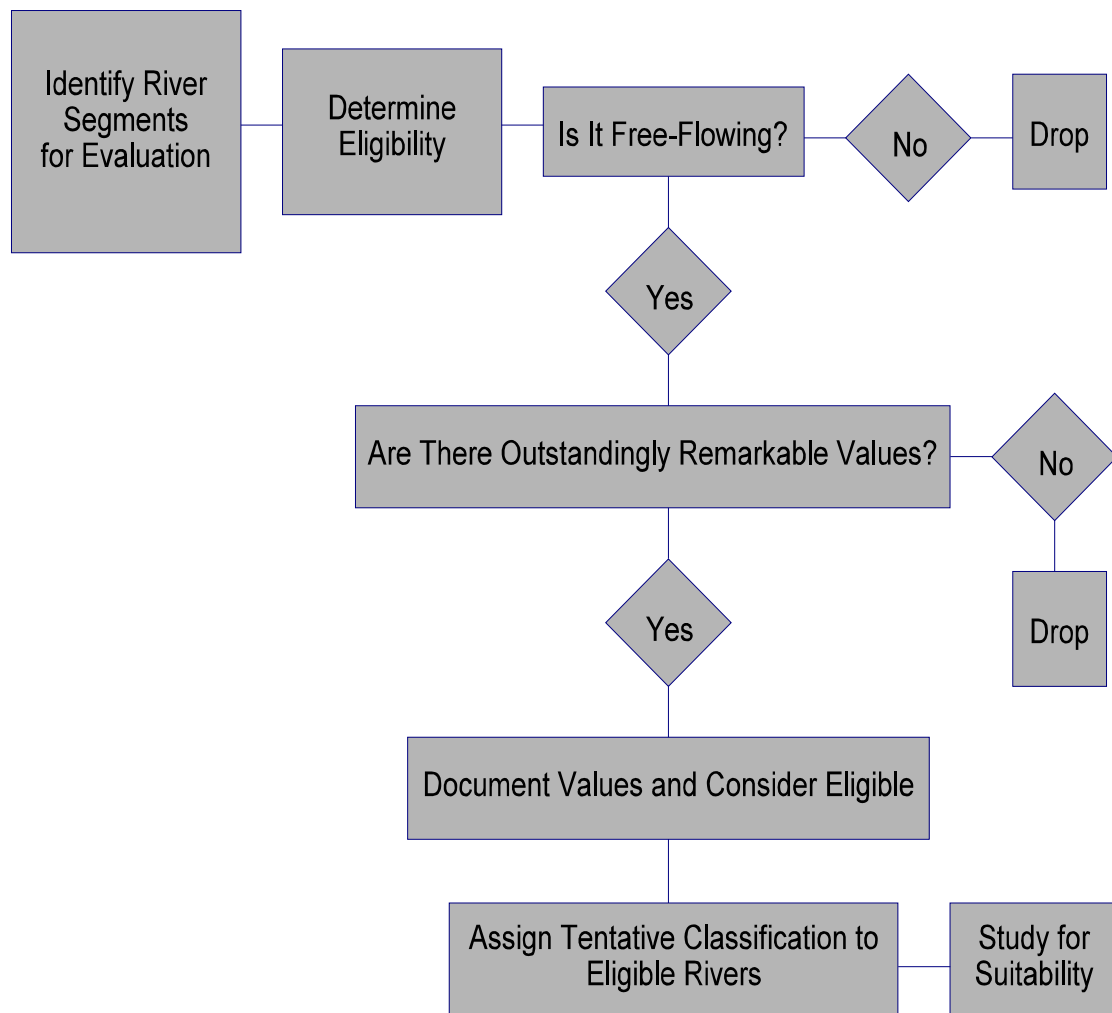
Whitewater Affiliation List.

- River segments identified in state-wide comprehensive outdoor recreation plans.
- River segments officially identified by state or local government agencies as being in the public interest for river protection.
- River segments identified in public scoping during the RMP process.

Tentative Classification

Once rivers are considered eligible as a result of applying the free-flowing and outstandingly remarkable criteria, river segments are assigned a tentative classification. The criteria for classification are defined in Section 2(b) of the Act. Classification categories are Wild, Scenic or Recreational and are based on the type and degree of human development and access associated with the river and adjacent lands at the time of the inventory. The classification does not reflect the types of values present along a river segment. The specific classification criteria are described in Appendix B. The classification assigned during the inventory phase is tentative. Final classification is a Congressional legislative determination along with designation of a river segment as part of the National System.

WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ELIGIBILITY PROCESS



PROTECTIVE MANAGEMENT OF ELIGIBLE RIVERS

Rivers or river segments determined eligible must be managed to protect the free flow, outstandingly remarkable values, and tentative classification. This protective management is in place until a river or river segment is determined suitable or unsuitable for recommendation. Management guidelines to protect candidate rivers are detailed in Appendix C, "Interim Protection for Candidate Wild and Scenic Rivers."

During this interim any proposed action which may adversely impact or be inconsistent with WSR values would require management decisions based on National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) analysis and Section 202 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).

- Any proposed action which may be inconsistent with or adversely impact identified WSR values would require a site-specific environmental assessment (EA), opportunity for public involvement, and at least a 30-day public comment period. The decision notice record for the EA (involving these types of actions) would be conducted and signed at the field office level. However, prior to signature a copy of

supporting documentation would be forwarded to the applicable State Director for review and concurrence.

- If the EA determined that the proposal could have a major action significantly affecting the environment, a separate environmental impact statement (EIS) apart from the BLM RMP/EIS would be required.
- Should the EA or EIS determine that the action as proposed, or with appropriate mitigation, or an acceptable alternative, would not have irreversible or irretrievable adverse impacts and would maintain or enhance identified WSR values, such action may be approved.
- If the EA or EIS determined that the action as proposed would have irreversible or irretrievable adverse impacts to identified WSR values, the decision on the action would be held temporarily in suspension until WSR evaluations are addressed and resolved through the BLM planning process.

THE STUDY PHASE

The purpose of the study phase is to determine whether eligible river segments are suitable or unsuitable for recommendation for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System (NWSRS). The suitability evaluation does not result in actual designation, but only a recommendation for those identified as suitable for designation. Only Congress can designate a wild and scenic river. In some instances, the Secretary of the Interior may designate a wild and scenic river when the governor of a state, under certain conditions, petitions for a river to be

designated. Rivers found unsuitable will be dropped from further consideration and managed according to the objectives outlined in the Dillon RMP.

The suitability evaluation is completed as the Draft RMP is prepared. Impacts that would occur from designation and non-designation of the eligible river segments are then analyzed in the environmental impact statement associated with the plan. Public review and comment on suitability recommendations included in the Draft RMP/EIS

is considered before the BLM makes final suitability determinations in the Proposed RMP.

The following factors, identified in BLM Manual Section 8351, are applied to each eligible river segment when completing the suitability study:

- Characteristics which do or do not make the river a worthy addition to the National System;
- The status of land and mineral ownership, use in the area, and associated or incompatible uses;
- Reasonably foreseeable potential uses of the land and related waters which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the National System, and values which would be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not designated;
- Federal, state, tribal, local, public or other interest in designation or non-designation of the river;
- Estimated cost of acquiring necessary lands, interests in lands, and administering the area if designated;
- Ability of the agency to manage and protect the river area or segment as a Wild and Scenic River (WSR), or

other means to protect the identified values other than WSR designation; and

- Historical or existing rights which could be adversely affected with designation.

The BLM will continue to manage any river segments recommended as suitable for inclusion into the National System to protect the free flow, outstandingly remarkable values, and recommended classification of the segment, pending Congressional action, consistent with the RMP.

Under the Act, designation neither gives nor implies government control of private lands within the river corridor. Although Congress (or the Secretary of the Interior for 2(a)(ii) rivers) could include private lands (inholdings) within the boundaries of the designated river area, management restrictions would apply only to public lands. The federal government has no authority to regulate or zone private lands under the Act; however, administering agencies may highlight the need for amendments to local zoning (where state and local zoning occurs). People living within a river corridor would be able to use their property as they had before designation.

BLM DILLON INVENTORY PROCESS

An interdisciplinary team (ID team) was formed to conduct the WSR inventory in support of the Dillon RMP. This team was comprised of BLM staff specialists in archaeology, fisheries, geology, wildlife biology, outdoor recreation, and rangeland management. In addition to tapping the team's knowledge of the lands under review, a variety of other sources were also considered.

Initial Screening

The ID team reviewed both the Nationwide Rivers Inventory List and the Outstanding

Rivers List at the outset of the inventory process. To avoid overlooking any river segment located on BLM lands, specialists familiar with area rivers considered all river segments in the resource area that might meet the criteria of free-flowing as well as exhibit the potential for any outstandingly remarkable values. This comprehensive approach was used to ensure all possible candidates were considered during the WSR review. The boundary used for evaluation of each segment was generally one quarter mile on either side of the river. Maps were reviewed systematically to as-

sess which river segments met the criteria of free-flowing and contained outstandingly remarkable values. The intention was to ensure that no segment was overlooked, with the understanding that further scrutiny would occur as the team evaluated this list for eligibility.

As it moved through the inventory process, the ID team made adjustments in order to include additional considerations and information. Some rivers were combined for evaluation purposes (North Fork of Greenhorn and Dark Hollow) and others were segmented to more accurately describe specific sections of the river. Other rivers were added as a result of incorporation of new inventory information (Montgomery Creek). Coordination with the Butte Field Office resulted in the extension of a segment of the lower Madison River to include Greycliff. Forest Service information and comments received from RMP scoping were also considered during the inventory phase.

Coordination with the Beaverhead National Forest

In 1993 the Beaverhead National Forest completed an amendment to its Forest Plan

to provide protection for rivers potentially eligible for inclusion in the NWSRS. The ID team reviewed this document in order to take the Forest Service findings into consideration when evaluating river segments flowing through both BLM and Forest Service lands. As a result, the ID team included Farlin Creek, Canyon Creek, and Willow Creek on the identification list for evaluation.

Rivers Identified through the RMP

Scoping Process

During the Dillon RMP scoping period, the public had the opportunity to suggest rivers in the Dillon Field Office area to be considered as part of the WSR inventory process. The following rivers or river segments were submitted for consideration:

- Beaverhead River
- Big Hole River
- Big Sheep Creek
- Lower Big Sheep Creek

None of these rivers or river segments had been excluded from the ID team review prior to the receipt of scoping comments, and all were included in the list resulting from the initial screening.

RESULTS OF THE IDENTIFICATION EFFORTS

Initial screening and identification efforts resulted in a list of 52 rivers for further consideration in the inventory process. These rivers or river segments include the following:

- | | | |
|---|----------------------------------|---------------------------------------|
| 1. Dyce Creek | 11. Ramshorn Creek | 21. Crows Nest Creek |
| 2. Willow Creek | 12. Muddy Creek | 22. Long Creek |
| 3. Big Hole (Divide to Notch Bottom) | 13. Deadman Creek | 23. Price Creek |
| 4. Beaverhead (Clark Canyon to Dalys) | 14. Big Sheep Creek | 24. Peet Creek |
| 5. Clark Canyon Creek | 15. Bell Canyon | 25. Bean Creek |
| 6. Elk Gulch (all forks) | 16. Limekiln Canyon | 26. Bear Creek (inside WSA boundary) |
| 7. Moose Creek | 17. Jake Canyon | 27. Jones Creek (inside WSA boundary) |
| 8. N.F. Green Horn Creek/ Dark Hollow Creek | 18. Cottonwood Creek | 28. Winslow Creek |
| 9. Hinch Creek | 19. E. Fork Blacktail Deer Creek | 29. Tipton Creek |
| 10. Trout Creek | 20. W. Fork Blacktail Deer Creek | 30. Curry Creek |
| | | 31. Matsingale Creek |

- | | | |
|--|---|----------------------|
| 32. Humphrey Creek | 38. Lower Madison-N. Wilderness Boundary to Greycliff Pass) | 46. Trapper Creek |
| 33. Shambow Creek | 39. Upper Madison River | 47. Everson Creek |
| 34. Odell Creek | 40. Wigwam Creek | 48. Black Canyon |
| 35. Hell Roaring Creek | 41. Buffalo Creek | 49. Yank Swamp/Creek |
| 36. Lower Madison-Ennis Dam to Powerhouse | 42. Arasta Creek | 50. Farlin Creek |
| 37. Lower Madison-Powerhouse to N. Wilderness Boundary | 43. Hells Canyon | 51. Canyon Creek |
| | 44. Camp Creek | 52. Montgomery Creek |
| | 45. Bear Creek (near Lemhi | |

Further Evaluation

All river segments from these initial identification efforts were plotted on Southwest Montana Interagency Travel Plan Maps and measured. Additional review then focused on whether these segments contained any outstandingly remarkable values as defined in the Act. Members of the ID team con-

ducted this review for each of their areas of expertise, using their knowledge of the area and consulting available inventory information. This information was considered against the ORV criteria provided in Appendix A. Details of those findings are provided in Appendix D.

ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATIONS

Eligibility Findings

The ID team prepared and reviewed documentation of the values considered outstandingly remarkable for each of the river segments. As a result of this evaluation, 10 rivers or river segments are proposed as

eligible for further study. The following list provides a description of outstandingly remarkable values for each candidate as well as the tentative classification.

River Segment: 1(R). Big Hole River (Divide to Notch Bottom)
Length on BLM: 7.2 miles
Tentative Classification: Recreational

Recreation Values: This portion of the Big Hole River is free flowing, with some irrigation diversion. It provides recreation opportunities for local, regional, and out-of-state users. Classified a "Class 1" (Blue Ribbon) trout fishery by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, the Big Hole River has resident wild rainbow and brown trout populations that are regionally and internationally significant.

The river is also noted for sightseeing, hiking, and rafting, and has exceptional opportunities for wildlife viewing and photography. Deer, elk, bighorn sheep, and eagles frequent the area and visitors are willing to

travel long distances to see them. A small herd of bighorn sheep occupy habitat on both the east and west sides of the Big Hole River. This herd is one of only two bighorn populations in the Dillon Field Office area.

Scenic Values: The stream side corridor from Divide to Maiden Rock is a narrow band of conifers, including large ponderosa pines, cottonwoods, willows, and dogwood, and a variety of other shrubs. Below Maiden Rock, the river develops multiple meandering channels flowing through a broad floodplain dominated by large cottonwood and willow communities. The large mature cottonwood stands contrast with the

sedimentary rock cliffs and shade the shores. The area is rated "A" for visual quality as defined in the BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1. Crystal clear waters reflect the beauty of the entire river corridor. Fall foliage is exceptional and the variation in vegetation color and texture throughout the spring, summer and fall are outstanding.

Fishery Values: The Big Hole River contains the only known existing population of fluvial (river dwelling) arctic grayling in the lower 48 United States. The grayling occupy the Big Hole River from about the town of Jackson, Montana to the mouth of the Big Hole River. The Big Hole River grayling are genetically different from other grayling populations in Montana, Canada, and Alaska. Although populations decrease in the lower reaches of the river, this unique population and their habitat represents an outstandingly remarkable value.

Cultural Values: There are numerous prehistoric properties recorded along this section of the Big Hole River, including lithic scatters, rock cairn alignments, and buffalo jumps. These sites are considered significant because of their archaeological or scientific value. Due to the arid nature of the

environment in this immediate area, the river was probably utilized as a primary source of water during the occupation of the prehistoric sites. The river corridor also served as an important transportation route for traveling through the region.

Historic Values: Historic sites along this river segment include sheep herder monuments and homestead dugouts. Most importantly, however, is site 24BE168, which is recorded as Lewis' Lookout. On August 5, 1805, Meriwether Lewis and a companion traversed up the Big Hole River to the Notch and climbed up the prominent feature now called the Hogback. From this vantage point they could see the confluence of what is now the Big Hole, Ruby, and Beaverhead Rivers which combine to form the Jefferson River and also view the numerous distant mountain ranges. It was from this vantage point that the decision to follow the Beaverhead River rather than the Big Hole was validated. This event and prominent land form are clearly described in the journals of Lewis and Clark. The area is therefore an important element of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail with demonstrated national, regional, and local significance.

River Segment:	2(R). Beaverhead River (Clark Canyon Dam to Dalys)
Length on BLM:	3 miles
Tentative Classification:	Recreational

Recreation Values: The Beaverhead River is considered a "Class 1" (Blue Ribbon) trout fishery by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks. Visitors travel long distances to fish the Beaverhead River for the wild brown trout and to a lesser degree rainbow trout. It provides a significant opportunity regionally and nationally for outfitters and guides, as well as individual sport fishermen.

Fishery Values: This section of the

Beaverhead River is one of the most productive brown trout fisheries in Montana. Water quality and overall habitat quality are enhanced by the tail-water influences from Clark Canyon Reservoir.

Historic Values: There are two important historic properties recorded along this river segment. The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail follows the Beaverhead River through the entirety of this section. This area is mentioned specifically in the journals

of Lewis and Clark as “Sarvisberry Valley,” and indicates that William Clark and company camped overnight at the mouth of Gallagher Creek on the night of August 15, 1805. Specific mention is made of the difficulty the men had pulling the canoes through the willows and over shallow and cold waters. The river segment is therefore an important element of the Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail with demonstrated national, regional, and local significance. This segment of the Beaverhead River is associated with a significant event (the exploration of the west by the Corps of Discovery), is associated with important persons (William Clark and Meriwether Lewis), and represents an activity that was rare or unusual in the region (The Lewis and Clark National Historic Trail).

In addition, the Ney Ranch is also located adjacent to Beaverhead River in this segment. The Ney Ranch was homesteaded in 1882 by William F. Henneberry, the son of an early pioneer of Beaverhead County.

When the homestead papers were filed, improvements identified a log cabin, stables, irrigation ditches, and irrigated fields. Irrigation water rights were filed by William F. Henneberry on Sept. 15, 1882 for 180 inches of water out of the Beaverhead River (Case No. 828). The original homestead cabin is still standing at the location along with a later log house that was constructed at the turn of the century. The Ney Ranch is an excellent example of early homesteading in southwestern Montana and is considered eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The property is linked to the Beaverhead River by its proximity and use of the river for irrigation. The Ney Ranch is associated with significant events (early homesteading and ranching in southwestern Montana), is associated with an important local person (William F. Henneberry, an early pioneer of Beaverhead County), and is rare (because of the exceptional integrity of the buildings) or unusual in the region (an example of homesteading remaining in public lands).

River Segment: 3(W). North Fork of Greenhorn/Dark Hollow Creek
Length on BLM: 2.5 miles
Tentative Classification: Wild

Ecological Values: Riparian habitat on both the Greenhorn Creek and Dark Hollow Creek is dominated by aspen/cottonwood/red-osier dogwood and Douglas-fir/red-osier dogwood habitat types in proper functioning condition. While this habitat type is fairly widespread in the area most are generally in poorer condition. The North Fork of the Greenhorn and Dark Hollow Creek provide an exceptional example of this vegetation community at site potential.

Fishery Values: Greenhorn Creek and Dark Hollow Creek support a genetically pure population of native westslope cutthroat trout in addition to brook trout. Westslope cutthroat trout populations are considered a species of special concern by the BLM. Habitat in these rivers is of exceptional high quality, is inaccessible by road, and is primitive in nature.

River Segment: 4(R). Big Sheep Creek
Length on BLM: 7.5 miles
Tentative Classification: Recreational

Recreational Values: The recreational opportunities along this segment of river

include fishing, hiking, camping, sightseeing, and wildlife viewing. All of these attrib-

utes were recognized for their outstanding quality when the Big Sheep Creek/Medicine Lodge Back County Byway was designated in 1990. Big Sheep Creek provides a diverse habitat for a unique collection of wildlife, raptors, waterfowl, and passerine birds, resulting in exceptional bird-watching. Bighorn sheep have been regularly seen throughout Big Sheep Creek canyon during all seasons and was one of the primary reasons for the byway designation. The area serves as a migration corridor and provides winter habitat for elk, moose, and deer. Mountain goats are occasionally seen. Big Sheep Creek is classified as a "Class 2-3" fishery by the Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife and Parks, but is a nationally recognized recreational fishery for wild brown, and to a lesser extent rainbow trout.

Fishery Values: Big Sheep Creek supports a nationally known rainbow and brown trout fishery. Large springs provide a significant portion of the river flows year-long and provide outstanding water quality and aquatic productivity.

Scenic Values: Big Sheep Creek winds through a series of three narrow canyons that imparts the feeling of entering a deep, well-vegetated, confined canyon between steep mountain slopes, then entering a narrow "tunnel" between cliffs and passing into a more open expanding valley, and finally opening onto the incredible vistas of towering peaks afforded in Big Sheep Creek Basin. The lower canyon is confined by steep rubble and scree slopes that extend over 2500 feet from the stream to the top of Dixon Mountain and White Pine Ridge. Different slope aspects support a wide variety of conifer and shrub communities on outstanding examples of geologic warps and folds typical of the Overthrust Belt. Subtly different colors of soils and rocks combine with vegetation colors and patterns to create a new view around every corner that is enhanced by the daily shifting of

shadows. Winter snow cover imparts an additional beauty to these slope and vegetation patterns. The stream corridor in the lower canyon is densely vegetated with willows, cottonwood, dogwood, and conifers, often obscuring the stream itself. Fall foliage is spectacular. The second canyon is very narrowly confined between limestone cliffs 50-200 feet high. These cliffs are pocked with small caves and holes. Large springs emerge into the spring channel in this area that add crystal clear water to Big Sheep Creek. In the spring, small meadows along the stream and springs are filled with the yellows, blues, and whites of wild flowers. The upper canyon is a combination of the two lower canyons, combining the extensive, steep, rocky slopes with limestone outcrops and cliffs, and an abundance of caves, holes, crevices, and unique geologic folds and fractures, with larger meadows bordering in the stream. This upper canyon opens to the west onto the spectacular views of the Continental Divide peaks in Big Sheep Creek Basin, and looks back to the equally impressive Lima Peaks in the east.

Cultural Values: There are numerous prehistoric archaeological sites located along Big Sheep Creek. These include tipi ring sites, wickiup sites, pictograph sites, and lithic scatters. Most, if not all of these properties are considered significant for their scientific values. Site 24BE601 (Big Sheep Creek Wickiup) has been formally listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Many of the pictograph sites hold special religious significance for modern Native American Tribes. Due to the arid nature and topography of the Big Sheep Creek Canyon and proximity of the prehistoric sites, the river was utilized as a primary source of water during the occupation of the prehistoric sites and also served as an important transportation route for traveling through the region. The cultural values identified have national and regional impor-

tance for interpreting prehistory. In addition, the standing wickiups features are considered rare and unusual in the region, and pictographs sites are also rare in the region and are generally viewed as having been utilized for sacred purposes.

Ecological Values: Steep canyon walls, porous limestone cliffs and outcrops, exten-

sive talus slopes on all slope aspects, and a wide range of grass, shrub, and tree communities provide a highly diverse array of wildlife habitat. Combined with the highly productive aquatic habitat in Big Sheep Creek, this corridor provides a uniquely high level of biodiversity in a relatively confined area.

River Segment: 5(W). Bear Creek (Inside Wilderness Study Area Boundary)
Length on BLM: 3 miles
Tentative Classification: Wild

Fishery Values: The public lands portions of Bear Creek within the WSA boundary are inaccessible by road and shorelines are primitive in nature. Bear Creek contains a native population of genetically pure westslope cutthroat trout (WCT), considered a species of special concern by the BLM. The WCT populations of Bear Creek represent unique genetic resources which

appear to have diverged widely and long ago despite the proximity of other drainages. The genetic variation of the populations renders them prime candidates for broodstock sources for the Red Rock River drainage, and, perhaps the Madison River drainage as a result of paleo-geologic connectivity between the two rivers.

River Segment: 6(W). Jones Creek (Inside Wilderness Study Area Boundary)
Length on BLM: 2.25 miles
Tentative Classification: Wild

Fishery Values: The public lands portions of Jones Creek within the WSA boundary are inaccessible by road and shorelines are primitive in nature. Habitat conditions on the public lands portion of Jones Creek are in excellent condition except for small sections affected by historic grazing. Jones Creek contains a native population of genetically pure westslope cutthroat trout, considered a species of special concern by

BLM. The WCT populations of Jones Creek represent unique genetic resources which appear to have diverged widely and long ago despite the proximity of other drainages. The genetic variation of the populations renders them prime candidates for broodstock sources for the Red Rock River drainage, and, perhaps the Madison River drainage as a result of paleo-geologic connectivity between the two rivers.

River Segment: 7(W). Lower Madison River–Powerhouse to N. Wilderness Boundary
Length on BLM: 9 miles
Tentative Classification: Wild

Recreation Values: This portion of the river is known nationally for its scenery and as a blue ribbon trout fishery. It is famous for white water boating opportunities. Wild-

life viewing includes opportunities to see bald eagles, black bear, moose, and mountain goats. This segment bisects the first BLM-administered wilderness area, design-

nated in 1983. Outfitters offer trips for fishing, floating, and wildlife viewing. It contains one class IV rapid and a series of class II and III features. It attracts national attention and is accessible only by foot, horseback, or water craft and offers outstanding opportunities for solitude.

Scenic Values: The area is rated “A” for visual quality as defined in the BLM Visual

River Segment: 8(R). Lower Madison River–N. Wilderness Boundary to Greycliff
Length on BLM: 6 miles
Tentative Classification: Recreational

Recreation Values: This segment of the Madison River is used primarily by local residents; however, the blue ribbon trout fishery is nationally and internationally famous. Outfitters frequent this stretch of river in the early fishing season during the salmon, caddis fly, and mayfly hatch. It is popular with floating recreationists due to the calm, relatively warm water created by the Ennis Dam. This segment provides a variety of recreation opportunities for local, regional, and out-of-state users and recently attracted participants from all over the world to retrace the Bozeman Trail in covered wagons and period dress.

Cultural Values: The segment of the Madison River from the northern wilderness boundary to Black’s Ford contains a significant prehistoric archaeological district. The prehistoric properties range in age from 10,000 to 500 years old and include stone circle (tipi ring) habitation sites, lithic scatters, and locations for the procurement of food and raw materials for tool manufacture. This area exhibits the highest average density of prehistoric sites in the Field Office area and also includes the site with the largest number of individual stone circles in southwest Montana (24MA304). These prehistoric sites contain significant research and scientific value and are rare and unique

Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1. This segment of river runs through the steep, narrow Bear Trap Canyon and features granite walls that reach as high as 1,500 feet. Elusive light sources showcase unique geologic features throughout the canyon. The seasonal colors of choke-cherry bushes, mahogany, willow and rose-bushes line the banks. A beautiful sense of solitude is captured at each quiet bend.

when compared to other areas because of the high site density and number of stone circles present. The sites are river related because the lower Madison River canyon was an important winter habitation location, and an important transportation corridor.

Historic Values: Historic values along this river segment include historic trails, bridges, and homesteads. The historic Bozeman Trail extending from Ft. Laramie to Virginia City and the gold fields of southwestern Montana crossed the Madison River and Black’s Ford and passed along the canyon to Warms Springs Creek. The Bozeman Trail was developed by John Bozeman (an important historical figure in Montana History) in 1863-64 and was a well used short-cut along the Oregon Trail to the Montana gold fields. The flood of immigrants and settlers using the Bozeman Trail was the primary cause of the Great Sioux Wars of the late 1860’s. The Scanlon Toll Bridge across the Madison River was one of the first toll bridges authorized by the Territorial Legislature and signed by Governor Meagher on December 12, 1866. Remnants of the bridge are still evident in the Madison River as well as foundations of the associated buildings. The lower Madison River Canyon served (and continues to serve) as an important transportation corri-

dor historically and prehistorically. The historical values represent significant events (early settlement and development of southwestern Montana, first toll bridge authorized by the Territorial Legislature), are associ-

ated with important individuals (John Bozeman), are unique and rare, and are determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (Bozeman Trail, Scanlon Toll Bridge).

River Segment: 9(R). Upper Madison River–Varney Bridge to Cliff Lake
Length on BLM: 11.5 miles
Tentative Classification: Recreational

Recreation Values: This segment includes a nationally and internationally known blue ribbon trout fishery. It is heavily used by outfitters and guides, and individual fishermen. Wildlife and bird viewing, particularly of hawks, is outstanding. The Wall Creek Game Range immediately adjoins the Madison River and supports several thousand elk during the winter. With an increasing elk population, use has expanded to both sides of the Madison River on public land. Significant numbers of mule deer and antelope also utilize winter and spring habitat adjoining the river. Moose are found throughout the upper river corridor during most of the year. A variety of fur bearers are found on the river including beaver, muskrat, mink, and river otter.

Scenic Values: The Madison River Valley is widely known for its panoramic views of distant mountain peaks, obtrusive granite bluffs, and broad valley vistas. The area is rated “A” for visual quality as defined in the BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1.

Geologic Values: Embedded in the scenic grandeur of the Madison River Valley is a unique record of past geologic events and geomorphological processes expressed in well developed fluvial terrace sequences and exceptionally well formed alluvial fans. These land forms document important climatic and tectonic events that have created the landscape that we see today, and also serve as a field classroom for countless students of earth sciences.

Wildlife Values: The Madison Valley provides a significant migration corridor for literally millions of waterfowl, raptors, and passerine birds (songbirds). Although use occurs during all seasons, the river corridor provides crucial habitat for migration during adverse conditions when adjoining high-elevation routes are unavailable. Winter use of the upper Madison River by trumpeter swans is increasing since the winter feeding program has been discontinued on Red Rock Lakes National Wildlife Refuge, where the most regional winter habitat for these birds was provided. Numerous other waterfowl are sustained during the winter by open water along the river. Waterfowl nesting occurs throughout the river corridor. Increasing numbers of non-breeding white pelicans are using the Madison River and Ennis Lake as summer habitat. At least five active bald eagle breeding territories are present on this reach of the Madison River. Substantial numbers of bald eagles winter on the Madison River, with numbers fluctuating on this reach depending on ice cover and the availability of fish and waterfowl as prey.

Cultural Values: There are numerous historic and prehistoric cultural properties along this segment of the Madison River. These sites range from prehistoric tipi ring locations to historic homesteads, most of which are considered to be potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. The Madison River corridor was an important travel route through this portion of the Northern Rocky Mountains prehistori-

cally and into the historic period. It was also an important route to Yellowstone Park from the late 1800s to about 1920. A well documented confrontation/battle between the Blackfeet and early trappers took place at the mouth of Ruby Creek. Notable participants included Jim Bridger, Osborne Rus-

sell, and Kit Carson. The battle is described in the memoirs of all three men. Because of the importance of the Madison River as a travel corridor in the prehistoric and early historic period, the cultural significance is outstandingly remarkable.

River Segment: 10(R). Canyon Creek
Length on BLM: .75 miles
Tentative Classification: Recreational

Geologic Values: The Canyon Creek area has unique geologic features and characteristics. These include an outstanding limestone canyon close to the Big Hole River that exposes Paleozoic and Mesozoic sedimentary rocks. Farther to the west the canyon broadens to reveal terminal moraine features from Pleistocene glaciation. As the valley extends back into the East Pioneer Mountains, it displays the classic glacially-

sculpted U-shape. These geologic features are significant and outstanding because they showcase geologic features not often found in the region.

While this segment is quite short on BLM lands, the Forest Service also includes 11 miles of Canyon Creek lying above the BLM segment on their list of eligible rivers.

NEXT STEPS

Final Decisions on Eligibility

Public comment on eligibility recommendations identified in this report will be accepted through April 30, 2002. BLM will review comments and make adjustments if comments show eligibility criteria are not met. This will result in final decisions on eligible rivers that will be studied further for suitability.

Suitability

Each eligible river or river segment will be evaluated for suitability or nonsuitability in the ongoing RMP process to assess

whether or not it is a potential candidate for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River system. The Draft RMP will incorporate each of the eligible rivers into the alternatives and assess impacts of recommending each river as either suitable or unsuitable. The BLM will then seek public review and comment on the Draft RMP/EIS. The Proposed RMP will include final suitability determinations on the eligible rivers. Congressional legislative action is required for actual designation and final classification of those suitable river segments recommended as Wild and Scenic Rivers.

APPENDIX A

ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

Free Flowing:

Section 16(b) of the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (The Act) defines “free flowing” as “existing or flowing in a natural condition without impoundment, diversion, straightening, rip-rapping, or other modification of the waterway.” The existence of small dams, diversion works, or other minor structures at the time the river segment is being considered shall not automatically disqualify it for consideration as a potential addition to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System (NWSRS). Congress did not intend to require rivers to be “naturally flowing,” i.e., flowing without any upriver manipulation except by nature. The presence of impoundments above and/or below the segment (including those that may regulate the flow regime through the segment), existing minor dams, and diversion structures within the study reach shall not by themselves render a river ineligible. There are many segments in the NWSRS which are down river from major dams or even between dams.

A river need not be “boatable or floatable” in order to be eligible. For purposes of eligibility determination, the volume of flow is sufficient if it is enough to maintain the outstandingly remarkable values identified within the segment. Rivers with intermittent flows exist within the NWSRS, and rivers representative of desert ecosystems having outstanding ecological or other values, should be considered.

Outstandingly Remarkable Values:

Section 1(b) of the Act requires that in order for a river segment to be eligible for inclusion as a component of the NWSRS, it must possess one or more of the following

outstandingly remarkable values: scenic, recreational, geologic, fish and wildlife, historic, cultural, or other similar values are to be interpreted and applied on BLM-administered lands. State Directors may (normally as an element of guidance for resource management planning) prescribe supplemental standards or criteria for determining outstandingly remarkable values as they apply to particular river segments.

1. Scenic: The landscape elements of land form, vegetation, water, color and related factors must result in notable or exemplary visual features and/or attractions within the geographic region. The BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1, may be used in assessing visual quality and in evaluating the extent of development upon scenic values. The rating area must be scenic quality “A” as defined in the BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1. Additional factors such as seasonal variations in vegetation, scale of cultural modifications, and length of time negative intrusions are viewed may also be considered. Scenery and visual attractions may be highly diverse over the majority of the river segment length and not common to other rivers in the geographic region.

2. Recreational: Recreational opportunities are or have the potential to be unusual enough to attract visitors to the geographic region. Visitors are willing to travel long distances to use the geographic region. Visitors are willing to travel long distances to use the river resources for recreational purposes. Recreation-related opportunities could include, but are not limited to, sightseeing, wildlife observation, camping, photography, hiking, fishing, hunting and boating. Interpretive opportunities may be ex-

ceptional and attract visitors from outside the geographic area. The river may provide or have the potential to provide settings for national or regional commercial usage or competitive events. In addition, the river may be eligible if it is determined to provide a critically important regional recreation opportunity, or to be a significant component of a regional recreation opportunity spectrum setting.

3. Geologic: The river or the area within the river corridor contains example(s) of a geologic feature, process or phenomenon that is rare, unusual or unique to the geographic region. The feature(s) may be in an unusually active stage of development, represent a textbook example and/or represent a unique or rare combination of geologic features (erosional, volcanic, glacial, and other geologic structures).

4. Fish:

For species in general, values may be judged on the relative merits of either populations or habitat, or a combination of these conditions.

a. Populations: The river is nationally or regionally one of the top producers of resident, indigenous, and/or anadromous fish species. Of particular significance may be the presence of wild or unique stocks, or populations of state or federally listed, or candidate threatened and endangered species.

b. Habitat: The river provides exceptionally high quality habitat for fish species indigenous to the region. Of particular significance is habitat for state or federally listed, or candidate threatened and endangered species. Habitat is considered outstandingly remarkable if rivers are inaccessible by road and shorelines are essentially primitive in nature. The watershed should be natural in appearance and water quality should be capable of supporting propagation of aquatic life normally adapted to the rivers' habitat.

For Westslope Cutthroat Trout, values must be judged on the combination of fish populations and habitat.

a. Populations: The river must contain genetically pure westslope cutthroat trout.

b. Habitat: Habitat must be inaccessible by road and shorelines are essentially primitive in nature.

5. Wildlife: Wildlife values may be judged on the relative merits of either wildlife populations or habitat, or a combination of these conditions:

a. Populations: The river or area within the river corridor contains nationally or regionally important populations of resident or indigenous wildlife species dependent on the river environment. Of particular significance may be species considered to be unique, populations of state or federally listed, or candidate threatened and endangered species.

b. Habitat: the river or area within the river corridor provides exceptionally high quality habitat for wildlife of national or regional significance, or may provide unique habitat or a critical link in habitat conditions for state or federally listed, or candidate threatened and endangered species. Contiguous habitat conditions are such that the biological needs of the species are met.

6. Cultural: The river or area within the river corridor contains a site(s) where there is evidence of occupation or use by Native Americans. Sites must be rare, have unusual characteristics, or exceptional human interest value(s). Sites may have national or regional importance for interpreting prehistory, may be rare, may represent an area where a culture or cultural period was first identified and described, may have been used concurrently by two or more cultural groups, or may have been used by cultural groups for rare or sacred purposes.

7. Historic: The river or area within the river corridor contains a site(s) or feature(s) associated with a significant event, an important person, or a cultural activity of the past that was rare or unusual in the region. A historic site(s) and/or feature(s) in most cases is 50 years old or older. Sites or features listed in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places may be of particular significance.

8. Other Similar Values: While no specific evaluation guidelines have been developed for the “other similar values” category, additional values deemed relevant to the eligibility of the river segment should be considered in a manner consistent with the foregoing guidance— including, but not limited to, hydrologic, ecologic/biologic diversity, paleontologic, botanic, and scientific study opportunities.

APPENDIX B

CLASSIFICATION CRITERIA FOR WILD, SCENIC, AND RECREATIONAL RIVER AREAS

ATTRIBUTE	WILD	SCENIC	RECREATIONAL
Water Resources Development	Free of impoundment.	Free of impoundment.	Some existing impoundment diversion. The existence of low dams, diversions, or other modifications of the waterway is acceptable, provided the waterway remains generally natural and riverine in appearance.
Shoreline Development	Essentially primitive. Little or no evidence of human activity. The presence of a few inconspicuous structures, particularly those of historic or cultural value, is acceptable. A limited amount of domestic livestock grazing or hay production is acceptable. Little or no evidence of past timber harvest. No ongoing timber harvest.	Largely primitive and undeveloped. No substantial evidence of human activity. The presence of small communities or dispersed dwellings or farm structures is acceptable. The presence of grazing, hay production, or row crops is acceptable. Evidence of past or ongoing timber harvest is acceptable, provided the forest appears natural from the riverbank.	Some development. Substantial evidence of human activity. The presence of extensive residential development and a few commercial structures is acceptable. Lands may have been developed for the full range of agricultural and forestry uses. May show evidence of past and ongoing timber harvest.
Accessibility	Generally inaccessible except by trail. No roads, railroads, or other provision for vehicular travel within the river area. A few existing roads leading to the boundary of the river area is acceptable.	Accessible in places by road. Roads may occasionally reach or bridge the river. The existence of short stretches of conspicuous or longer stretches of inconspicuous roads or railroads is acceptable.	Readily accessible by road or railroad. The existence of parallel roads or railroads on one or both banks as well as bridge crossing and other river access points is acceptable.

Water Quality	Meets or exceeds federal criteria or federally approved state standards for aesthetics, for propagation of fish and wildlife normally adapted to the habitat of the river, and for primary contact recreation (swimming), except where exceeded by natural conditions.	No criteria prescribed by the Act. The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 have made it a national goal that all waters of the United State be made fishable and swimmable. Therefore, rivers will not be precluded from scenic and recreational classification because of poor water quality at the time of their study, provided a water quality improvement plan exists or is being developed in compliance with applicable federal and state laws.
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APPENDIX C

INTERIM PROTECTION FOR CANDIDATE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS

	5(d)(1) ¹	
Issue/Action	Eligible ²	Suitable
Study Boundary	*minimum of ¼ mile from OHWM ³ *boundary may include adjacent areas needed to protect identified values	*minimum of ¼ mile from OHWM *boundary may include adjacent areas needed to protect identified values
Preliminary Classification	Section 2(b): *3 classes: wild, scenic, recreational defined by statute *criteria for classification described in Interagency Guidelines *manage at preliminary classification	Section 2(b): *3 classes: wild, scenic, recreational defined by statute *criteria for classification described in Interagency Guidelines *manage at preliminary classification
Study Report Review Procedures		*notice of study report/DEIS ⁴ published in <i>Federal Register</i> *comments/response from federal, state, and local agencies, and the public included in study report/FEIS ⁵ transmitted to the President and Congress

¹Agency-identified study rivers as directed by Section 5(d)(1) of the Act.

²A number of sources are available for identifying rivers under Section 5(d)(1). Some states, other agencies, and organizations maintain lists of rivers with special attributes that are helpful in identifying candidate rivers. The most extensive identification of candidate rivers is found in the NRI. The NRI is maintained by the NPS and was compiled, in part, to fulfill Section 5(d)(1)'s mandate that federal agencies consider impacts on potential WSR's in all agency "planning for the use and development of water and related land resources." This inventory, originally completed in 1982 and updated in 1993, seeks to identify such rivers based on the Act's basic eligibility criteria. Under a Presidential Directive issued in 1979, each federal agency, as part of its normal planning and environmental review processes, is required to avoid or mitigate adverse effects on rivers in the NRI.

³Ordinary High Water Mark

⁴Draft environmental impact statement

⁵Final environmental impact statement

Private Land *Administration *Acquisition	*affect private land uses through voluntary partnership with state/local governments and landowners *no regulatory authority *no ability to acquire interest in land under the Act's authority prior to designation	*affect private land uses through voluntary partnership with state/local governments and landowners *no regulatory authority *typically an evaluation of the adequacy of local zoning and land use controls is a component of suitability determination ⁶ *no ability to acquire interest in land under the Act's authority prior to designation
Water Resources Project	*river's free-flowing condition protected to the extent of other agency authorities; not protected under the Act	*river's free-flowing condition protected to the extent of other agency authorities; not protected under the Act
Land Disposition	*agency discretion to retain lands within river corridor in federal ownership	agency discretion to retain lands within river corridor in federal ownership
Mining and Mineral Leasing	*protect free flow, water quality, and ORVs through other agency authorities	*protect free flow, water quality, and ORVs through other agency authorities
Actions of Other Agencies	*affect actions of other agencies through voluntary partnership	*affect actions of other agencies through voluntary partnership
Protect Outstandingly Remarkable Values	*no regulatory authority conferred by the Act; agency protects through other authorities Section 11(b) 1: *limited financial or other assistance to encourage participation in the acquisition, protection, and management of river resources ⁷	*no regulatory authority conferred by The Act; agency protects through other authorities Section 11(b) 1: *limited financial or other assistance to encourage participation in the acquisition, protection, and management of river resources

⁶For an agency-identified study river that includes private lands there is often the need to evaluate existing state and local land use controls and, if necessary, assess the willingness of state and local government to protect river values.

⁷Section 11(b)1 authorizes the Secretary of the Interior and Secretary of Agriculture, or the head of any other federal agency, to provide for "limited financial or other assistance to encourage participation in the acquisition, protection, and management of river resources." This authority "applies within or outside a federally administered area and applies to rivers which are components of the National and to other rivers." The recipients of federal assistance include states or their political subdivisions, landowners, private organizations, or individuals. Some examples of assistance under this section include, but are not limited to, riparian restoration, riparian fencing to protect water quality and riparian vegetation, or vegetative screening to enhance scenery/recreation experience.

APPENDIX D

LIST OF RIVER SEGMENTS FROM INITIAL IDENTIFICATION EFFORTS

#	Drainage	ID Team Comments	Other Comments ¹	Determination	
				Not Eligible	Eligible
1	Dyce Creek (including west and east forks)	Dyce Creek provides habitat for pure westslope cutthroat trout (WCT); however, the river is highly accessible by road and shoreline is not primitive in nature and is not considered to be outstandingly remarkable. Many recreation opportunities exist within the area of Dyce Creek but few are river specific. Values are not considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
2	Willow Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.	Forest Service comment: Cultural sites not river specific.	X	
3	Big Hole (Divide to Notch Bottom)	Free flowing with some irrigation diversion. High recreational and scenic value. Wildlife viewing opportunities are remarkable. It supports a Blue Ribbon Trout fishery. There are also numerous cultural sites recorded along the lower portion of the river segment. Members of the Lewis and Clark Expedition traveled up the river to the Hogback Ridge (Notch Bottom.)	Recommended for consideration during RMP scoping.		X
4	Beaverhead (Clark Canyon to Dalys)	Blue ribbon fishery, cultural, historic, and recreational values are outstandingly remarkable.	Recommended for consideration during RMP scoping.		X
5	Clark Canyon Creek	Geological activity, elk calving ground, wetland/riparian areas. Not all values were river related. Values are not considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
6	Elk Gulch (all forks)	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
7	Moose Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
8	Greenhorn (north fork) Dark Hollow Creek	Recent road closure on forest limits access to foot traffic only. WCT, wetland riparian values.	FS comments: NF Greenhorn Ck. Ranking not outstandingly remarkable.		X

#	Drainage	ID Team Comments	Other Comments ¹	Determination	
				Not Eligible	Eligible
9	Hinch Creek	WCT; however, the river is accessible by road and shoreline is not primitive in nature. Values are not considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
10	Trout Creek	WCT; however, the river is accessible by road and shoreline is not primitive in nature. Values are not considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
11	Ramshorn Creek	WCT in the upper watershed; however, the river is accessible by road and shoreline is not primitive in nature. Values are not considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
12	Muddy Creek	WCT; however the river is highly accessible by road and shoreline is accessible by road and is not primitive in nature. Some significant cultural values are present but are not river related and therefore do not meet the criteria.		X	
13	Deadman Creek	Recreation values are not outstandingly remarkable. Deadman Creek does not contain outstanding scenic values. The narrowness of the canyon obscures any view of more dramatic surrounding mountain ranges, and the canyon itself is not spectacular.	Forest Service comments: Overall ranking high for a number of Recreation and Wildlife values. Cultural site is National Historic Register quality. 10.2 miles classified as Wild. Deadman remained on the FS list of 8 rivers determined to be eligible for protection under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act (the Act) of 1968.	X	
14	Big Sheep Creek	The area is rated "A" for visual quality as defined in the BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1. Much of the Back Country Byway follows the river corridor. Recreation, scenic, fisheries, cultural, and ecological values are all outstandingly remarkable.	Big Sheep Creek and specifically lower Big Sheep Creek were recommended for consideration during RMP scoping.		X

#	Drainage	ID Team Comments	Other Comments ¹	Determination	
				Not Eligible	Eligible
15	Bell Canyon	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
16	Limekiln Canyon	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
17	Jake Canyon	WCT; however, the river is accessible by road and shoreline is not primitive in nature. Values are not considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
18	Cottonwood Creek	WCT; however, the river is accessible by road and shoreline is not primitive in nature. Values are not considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
19	E. Fork Blacktail Deer Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
20	W. Fork Blacktail Deer Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
21	Crows Nest Creek	Properly functioning riparian, high quality scenery. Wildlife is present but not river related. None of the identified values were considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
22	Long Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
23	Price Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
24	Peet Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
25	Bean Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
26	Bear Creek	WCT, inaccessible by road and shorelines are essentially primitive in nature. The WCT populations of Bear Creek represent unique genetic resources which renders them prime candidates for broodstock sources. Three prehistoric archaeological sites are recorded along Bear Creek but are typical of other sites in the immediate area and are not unique. The area is rated "A" for visual quality as defined in the BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1; however, scenic values are common to the area and fell short for meeting the criteria for outstandingly remarkable.			X

#	Drainage	ID Team Comments	Other Comments ¹	Determination	
				Not Eligible	Eligible
27	Jones Creek	WCT, inaccessible by road and shorelines are essentially primitive in nature. The WCT populations of Bear Creek represent unique genetic resources which renders them prime candidates for broodstock sources. The area is rated "A" for visual quality as defined in the BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1; however, scenic values are common to the area and fell short for meeting the criteria for outstandingly remarkable. Two cultural resources have been identified and recorded along Jones Creek, neither are unique or significant.			X
28	Winslow Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
29	Tipton Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
30	Curry Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
31	Matsingale Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
32	Humphrey Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
33	Shambow Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
34	Odell Creek (all forks)	The area is rated "A" for visual quality as defined in the BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1; however, scenic values are common to the area and fell short for meeting the criteria for outstandingly remarkable. There are four recorded prehistoric sites in the Odell Creek drainage. All four sites are lithic scatters and are common in southwestern Montana. They are not exceptional or unique.		X	
35	Hell Roaring Creek	Approximately .75 miles located in the Centennial Mountains. Wilderness Study Area and Continental Divide Trail access. The area is rated "A" for visual quality as defined in the BLM Visual Resource Inventory Handbook, H-8410-1; however, scenic values are common to the area and fell short for meeting the criteria for outstandingly remarkable.		X	

#	Drainage	ID Team Comments	Other Comments ¹	Determination	
				Not Eligible	Eligible
36	Lower Madison River (Ennis Dam to Powerhouse)	Like many designated WSRs in the nation, recreation opportunities are limited in this segment because of regulated flows. Scenic values are not outstandingly remarkable because of the dam and powerhouse. The dam and powerhouse are of historic significance and offer some opportunity for interpretation but are out of our management jurisdiction. None of the values identified for this segment can be considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
37	Lower Madison River (Powerhouse to N. Wilderness Boundary)	Recreation and scenic values are outstanding.			X
38	Lower Madison River (N. Wilderness Boundary to Greycliff)	Recreation, historic, and cultural values are outstanding. Scenery is pleasant but not outstanding to the extent of being considered regionally significant.			X
39	Upper Madison River (Varney Bridge to Cliff Lake)	Recreational, scenic, wildlife, geologic, and cultural values are all outstandingly remarkable.			X
40	Wigwam Creek	BLM manages approx. 1 mile; FS manages approx. 5.5 miles but did not recognize it in their study. Approx. 3.5 miles private. Unroaded, properly functioning riparian; not leased for grazing, managed for wildlife. Values are not outstandingly remarkable.		X	
41	Buffalo Creek	WCT; however, the river is accessible by road and shoreline is not primitive in nature. Values are not considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
42	Arasta Creek	There is one previously recorded historic cabin on public lands, but it is not in and of itself unique or significant.		X	
43	Hells Canyon (Jefferson tributary)	Fishery and properly functioning riparian values are not outstandingly remarkable.		X	
44	Camp Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
45	Bear Creek (near Lemhi Pass)	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
46	Trapper Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	

#	Drainage	ID Team Comments	Other Comments ¹	Determination	
				Not Eligible	Eligible
47	Everson Creek (north and south forks)	WCT; however, the river is accessible by road and shoreline is not primitive in nature. Some significant cultural values are present but are not river related and therefore do not meet the criteria.		X	
48	Black Canyon	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	
49	Yank Swamp/Yank Swamp Creek	According to the Nez Perce (Nee-ME-Poo) National Historic Trail-Comprehensive Plan (Map page 51), a segment of the trail crosses private land along the Yank Swamp drainage, but crosses public land outside of the river corridor. The Nez Perce (Nee-ME-Poo) National Historic Trail has demonstrated national, regional, and local significance, but in this case does not meet the criteria for outstandingly remarkable because it is not river related.		X	
50	Farlin Creek	WCT; however, the river is accessible by road and shoreline is not primitive in nature and is not considered outstandingly remarkable.		X	
51	Canyon Creek	Wildlife values are present but not outstandingly remarkable as wildlife values related to Canyon Creek. Recreation values related to wildlife viewing opportunities along the Big Hole River are outstandingly remarkable. Geologic features are significant.	FS comments: Overall ranking high for a number of values. Cultural site river dependant. (11 miles of Canyon Creek remained on the Forest Service (FS) list as eligible but the FS has not completed the suitability study on any of their eligible rivers.)		X
52	Montgomery Creek	No outstandingly remarkable values.		X	

1. From Beaverhead Deerlodge 1993 Wild and Scenic River Forest Plan Amendment and the Dillon Resource Management Plan Scoping Meetings.

MAPS